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Heads I with tails you lose.

AUGMENTED TITLE: M. Rossides' application of fair gambling to grocery

The Economist (Economist) v. 323 (June 13 '92) p. 74

ISSN: 0013-0613 DOCUMENT TYPE: Feature Article

LANGUAGE: \ English

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ABSTRACT: Michael Rossides, an inventor based in Washington, D.C., has devised a way to fairly, efficiently, and ingeniously eliminate the need for change in most transactions. Under Rossides's system, shoppers randomly choose a number from 1 to 100 when they go to make a purchase. The shop's electronic cash register is programmed to do the same, and the 2 numbers are added together; if the total is more than 100, then 100 is subtracted from it. If the result is less than or equal to the amount of change in the price, the price is rounded up. If the number is more, the price is rounded down. The laws of probability ensure that both parties get a fair deal in the long run. Rossides is currently looking for venture capital to pay for legal advice on the status of such gambling and to build a prototype of a coinless cash register.